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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA SAN JOSE DIVISION

JONATHAN C. KALTWASSER,
 on behalf of himself and all others
 similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

AT&T MOBILITY, LLC f/k/a
 CINGULAR WIRELESS LLC,

Defendant.

CASE NO.: 5:07-cv-00411-JF

PLAINTIFF'S REPLY BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR CLASS CERTIFICATION [REDACTED]

Judge: Honorable Jeremy Fogel

Date: June 11, 2010

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Courtroom: 3

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	INTRODUCTION	1
II.	REPLY ARGUMENT	1
A.	Plaintiff Has Article III Standing	1
B.	Rule 23(a)'s Prerequisites Are Easily Satisfied	2
1.	The Class Is Appropriately Defined and Sufficiently Numerous	2
2.	Commonality Exists As Every Cingular Ad During The Class Period Made The "Fewest Dropped Calls" Claim	4
3.	Typicality	5
4.	Adequacy.....	7
C.	Predominance is Readily Established in this Case.....	8
1.	Professor Polinsky's Opinions and Cingular's Criticisms of Plaintiff's Damage Model are Incompetent and Rely Solely on Non-Existent Legal Standards.....	8
2.	Defendant Ignores The Lessons of <i>Tobacco II</i>	10
3.	The Cases Cingular Relies On Are Inapposite, At Best	11
4.	Breach of Contract Requires No Individualized Proof	15
5.	Quasi-Contract/Unjust Enrichment Requires No Individualized Proof.....	17
D.	A Class Action is the Sole Efficient Method for the Management of this Litigation...	19
III.	CONCLUSION	20

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

CASES**PAGE NO.**

<i>A&M Records, Inc. v. Heilman</i> , 75 Cal. App. 3d 554 (1978).....	10
<i>Ajaxo, Inc. v. E*Trade Group, Inc.</i> , 37 Cal. Rptr. 3d 221 at 247-49 (2005)	17
<i>American Airlines v. Wolens</i> , 513 U.S. 219, 223 (1995).....	16
<i>Barreras Ruiz v. Am. Tobacco Co.</i> , 180 F.R.D. 194 (D.P.R. 1998).....	19
<i>Cohen v. DIRECTV, Inc.</i> , 178 Cal. App. 4 th 966 (2009).....	3, 11, 12
<i>Daniel v. Am. Bd. of Emergency Med.</i> , 269 F. Supp. 2d 159 (W.D.N.Y. 2003)	19
<i>Deitz v. Comcast Corp.</i> , 2007 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 53188 (2007).....	18
<i>Dukes v. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.</i> , ___ F.3d ___, 2010 U.S. App. LEXIS 8576, *56 (9th Cir. Cal. Apr. 26, 2010)	4, 5
<i>Endres v. Wells Fargo Bank</i> , 2009 WL 344204 (N.D. Cal. Feb. 6, 2008).....	14
<i>Foster Poultry Farms, Inc. v. SunTrust Bank</i> , 2010 U.S. App. LEXIS 8827 (9th Cir. Cal. Apr. 26, 2010).....	16
<i>Hanlon v. Chrysler Corp.</i> , 150 F.3d 1011 (9th Cir.1998).....	4
<i>Hodes v. Van's Int'l Foods</i> , 2009 WL 2424214 (C.D. Cal. July 23, 2009)	14
<i>In re Steroid Hormone Product Cases</i> , 181 Cal. App. 4 th 145 (2010).....	12
<i>In re Tableware Antitrust Litigation</i> , 241 F.R.D. 644 (N.D. Cal. 2007)	8

1	<i>In re Tobacco II Cases,</i>	
2	46 Cal. 4 th 298 (2009)	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15
3	<i>In re VIOXX Class Cases,</i>	
4	180 Cal. App. 4 th 116 (2009).....	14
5	<i>Kaldenbach v. Mutual of Omaha Life Ins. Co.,</i>	
6	178 Cal. App. 4 th 830 (2009).....	13
7	<i>Kanawai v. Bechtel Corp.,</i> 254 F.R.D. 102 (N.D. Cal. 2008).....	7
8	<i>Korea Supply Co. v. Lock-heed Martin Corp.,</i>	
9	29 Cal.4th 1134 (2003)	9
10	<i>Kraus v. Trinity Management Services, Inc.,</i>	
11	23 Cal. 4th 116 (2000)	10
12	<i>Laster v. AT&T Mobility, LLC,</i>	
13	2008 U.S. District LEXIS 103712 *42 (S.D. Cal. 2008).....	20
14	<i>Laster v. AT&T Mobility, LLC,</i>	
15	584 F.3d 849 (9th Cir. 2009).....	7
16	<i>Local Joint Executive Bd. of Culinary/Bartenders Trust Fund v. Las Vegas Sands, Inc.</i>	
17	244 F.3d 1152 (9 th Cir. 2001).....	20
18	<i>Lozano v. AT & T Wireless Services, Inc.,</i>	
19	504 F.3d 718 (9th Cir. 2007).....	16
20	<i>Mahfood v. QVC, Inc.,</i>	
21	2008 WL 5381088 (C.D. Cal. Sept. 22, 2008).....	14
22	<i>PAE Government Services, Inc. v. MPRI, Inc.,</i>	
23	514 F.3d 856 (9th Cir. 2007).....	18
24	<i>Park v. Cytodyne Technologies, Inc.,</i>	
25	2003 WL 21283814 (Cal. Sup. Ct., May 30, 2003).....	10
26	<i>People v. Outdoor Media Group,</i>	
27	13 Cal. App. 4 th 1067 (1993).....	10
28	<i>Peterson v. Cellco Partnership,</i>	
	164 Cal. App. 4th 1583 (Cal. App. 4th Dist. 2008)	18, 19
	<i>Pfizer, Inc. v. Superior Court,</i>	
	182 Cal. App. 4 th 622 (2010).....	9, 12, 13, 15

1	<i>Sanchez v. Wal Mart Stores, Inc.,</i>	
2	2009 WL 1514435 (E.D. Cal. May 28, 2009).....	14, 15
3	<i>Sanders v. Apple, Inc.,</i>	
4	672 F. Supp. 2d 978 (N.D. Cal. 2009)	3
5	<i>Snepp v. United States,</i>	
6	444 U.S. 507, 100 S. Ct. 763, 62 L. Ed. 2d 704 (1980).....	17
7	<i>Sorowitz v. Hilton Hotels Corp.,</i>	
8	383 U.S. 363 (1963).....	7
9	<i>Valentino v. Carter-Wallace,</i>	
10	97 F.3d 1227 (9th Cir. 1996).....	20
11	<i>Vathana v. EverBank,</i>	
12	2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 35665 (N.D. Cal. Mar. 15, 2010).....	16
13	<i>Watson Laboratories Inc v. Rhone-Poulenc Rorer,</i>	
14	2001 WL 1673258 (C.D. Cal. 2001).....	17
15	<i>Westways World Travel, Inc. v. AMR Corp.,</i>	
16	218 F.R.D. 223 (C.D. Cal. 2003)	1, 6, 8, 16
17	<i>Williams v. Gerber Products Co.,</i>	
18	552 F.3d 934 (9th Cir. 2008).....	11
19	<i>Yokoyama v. Midland Nat. Life Ins. Co.,</i>	
20	594 F.3d 1087 (9th Cir. 2010).....	16, 17
21	<i>Zinser v. Accufix Research Institute, Inc.</i>	
22	253 F.3d 1180 (9 th Cir. 2001).....	19

STATUTES AND OTHER AUTHORITIES

23	Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203	15
24	Fed.R.Civ.P 8(d)(2).....	18
25	Fed.R.Civ.P 8(d)(3).....	18
26	Fed.R.Civ.P 23	20
27	Fed.R.Civ.P 23(a)(2)	4
28	Fed.R.Civ.P 23(b)(3).....	15, 20

PLAINTIFF'S REPLY BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR CLASS CERTIFICATION

Case No.: 5:07-cv-00411-JF

I. INTRODUCTION

Cingular's entire brief is premised on the false notion that individualized proof of deception, reliance and injury from its misleading Fewest Dropped Call ads must be shown for each class member. No such showing is required for absent class members for any of the class claims asserted here. *In re Tobacco II Cases*, 46 Cal. 4th 298, 320, 328 (2009)(UCL/FAL); *Westways World Travel, Inc. v. AMR Corp.*, 218 F.R.D. 223, 238 (C.D. Cal. 2003)(breach of contract/unjust enrichment).

Indeed, it is only the representative Plaintiff of a UCL/FAL claim who must prove his individual reliance. *Tobacco II*, 46 Cal. 4th at 320, 328. Cingular's contentions that Plaintiff has not shown his reliance on Cingular's Fewest Dropped Calls ads are unsupportable. Indeed, Plaintiff testified consistently under several hours of questioning that he did rely and was injured as a result.

When Cingular's ill-conceived arguments based on non-existent reliance issues are removed, it is clear Cingular has no legitimate opposition to certification of Plaintiff's class based on Cingular's false and misleading Fewest Dropped Calls claim. Indeed, that claim was contained in every ad Cingular ran during the Class Period on which it spent [REDACTED] in California alone blanketing those ads in all forms of media as well as in all of its own stores and websites such that no class member could have realistically signed-up or renewed Cingular wireless service without being exposed to those ads. Thus, no valid reason exists to deny Plaintiff's Motion for Class Certification.

II. REPLY ARGUMENT

A. Plaintiff Has Article III Standing

Cingular's "Article III standing" argument rests on a single unsupportable contention that Plaintiff did not rely on Cingular's Fewest Dropped Calls ad campaign in deciding to renew his wireless service on July 31, 2006. Opp. at 6-8. As Cingular concedes, "reliance is proved by showing that the defendant's misrepresentation or nondisclosure was 'an immediate cause' of the plaintiff's injury producing conduct." *Tobacco II*, 46 Cal.4th at 326 (quotation citation omitted).

Plaintiff's deposition testimony clearly shows his reliance:

Q. So when your contract came up in the summer of 2006, did you consider switching providers at that time?

A. I did consider. I looked at the various different things out there. Yes, I had the aggravation of dropped calls, but at the same time based upon the advertising, if I

switched to a different network, I would actually have more dropped calls, and I don't want more dropped calls. I want fewer dropped calls.

So, based upon the advertising I relied upon it to actually renew in July of 2006. It wasn't until I actually switched to Verizon [in 2008] that I've had absolutely no dropped calls whatsoever.

• • • •

Q. And why did the fewest dropped calls ad influence your decision as opposed to other ads?

A. Because actually being able to remain connected is important to me. I looked at it as, okay, they've got the fewest dropped calls. Dropped calls are annoying, so I relied on the advertising to select why I renewed.

Kalt. Dep., pp. 74:14-75:5; 90:3-10.¹ See also Kalt. Dec. ¶¶ 3-5 (numerous citations omitted).

Cingular tries to supplant Plaintiff's clear reliance testimony by creatively quoting from Plaintiff's deposition. When examined in context, none of the quotes demonstrate a lack of standing.² Plaintiff clearly relied on Cingular's ads and has standing.

B. Rule 23(a)'s Prerequisites Are Easily Satisfied

1. The Class Is Appropriately Defined and Sufficiently Numerous

Cingular argues erroneously that Plaintiff's class is not ascertainable. However, the class definition is in fact precise and entirely objective and the members of the class are thus *ascertainable*. No merits inquiries must be made to determine class membership, and Cingular can easily determine

¹ All record evidence references herein are to the Declaration of Joseph N. Kravec, Jr. in Support of Plaintiff's Motion for Class Certification filed at ECF 109 (unsealed portions) and ECF 118 and 122 (sealed portions), unless otherwise indicated.

² First, Cingular says Plaintiff is unsure if he would have renewed if he had not seen the ads, but Plaintiff testified that "knowing all the information I do about the different research that was produced as part of this case, I have a different decision now." Kalt. Dep. at 75:16-19. Second, Cingular says Plaintiff is unsure when he formed the belief from Cingular's ads that "no other wireless company had fewer dropped calls," but as Plaintiff explains in his Declaration he formed the belief based on the ads that Cingular had "the fewest dropped calls" before he renewed and is only unsure when he first thought of it phrased as "no fewer dropped calls." Kalt. Dec. ¶¶ 7-8. Third, Cingular says Plaintiff is unsure when he made up his mind to renew or if he saw the ads before he renewed, but Plaintiff testified multiple times he saw the fewest dropped calls ads before he renewed, that the fewest dropped call promise was the primary reason for his decision to renew, and that he certainly made the decision to renew by the time he signed the renewal agreement at the Cingular store on July 31, 2006. Kalt. Dec. ¶ 10. Fourth, Cingular says being a Cingular customer since 2004 Plaintiff knew Cingular dropped calls before he renewed in 2006, but Plaintiff testified he believed Cingular's ads were not promising no dropped calls, but that it had "the fewest" and if he went to another provider, he would have more. Kalt. Dep. at 92:2-12. Fifth, Cingular says Plaintiff did not take advantage of his 30-day right to cancel after renewal in July, 2006, but Plaintiff testified he did not know Cingular had lied about its dropped call performance until September, 2006. Kalt. Dep. at 163:18-164:10.

1 the class members by reference to its records. Cingular's real argument is not that the class definition
 2 is not sufficiently objective or precise, but rather that it is *overly broad*, because, it claims, some class
 3 members might not have relied on the Fewest Dropped Call ads in question. But, as discussed further
 4 below, such class member reliance is not required under any of the claims Plaintiff is seeking to have
 5 certified for class treatment.

6 Cingular cites *Sanders v. Apple, Inc.*, 672 F. Supp. 2d 978 (N.D. Cal. 2009). However, as this
 7 Court knows, that case involved fraud and breach of warranty claims in addition to a UCL claim; it
 8 involved no saturation marketing campaign like Cingular's pervasive Fewest Dropped Calls
 9 campaign; and it involved a plaintiff who expressly alleged that he purchased his Apple products not
 10 because of the disputed advertising but rather because of brand loyalty. Cingular says this Court held
 11 the class "was not ascertainable because it included persons who were not deceived by
 12 advertisements or suffered no damages and thus lacked damages" (Opp at 8:13-14), but it is not
 13 actually clear that the Court's holding rested on ascertainability, particularly since the class appeared
 14 to be ascertainable. Rather, in a brief section of the opinion with a *heading* stating "Whether The
 15 Class is Ascertainable," this Court concluded that the class was *overbroad* because it was defined as
 16 all persons in the United States who *owned* a 20-inch Aluminum iMAC. It appears to have been the
 17 fact that the class was defined as all *owners*, and thus "necessarily" included non-purchasers who
 18 lacked standing because they *couldn't* have relied on, or been damaged by, the alleged
 19 misrepresentations at issue, that led this Court to strike the class allegations (with leave to amend).
 20 672 F. Supp. 2d at 991. Defendant, not surprisingly, omits that fact in purporting to quote the Court's
 21 "ascertainability" holding. Opp., p. 8:13-14.³

22
 23
 24 ³ Cingular also asserts that *Cohen v. DIRECTV, Inc.*, 178 Cal. App. 4th 966 (2009) found that a class
 25 seeking UCL relief "was not ascertainable when it includes people who never saw" the allegedly
 26 misleading advertisement. Opp., 8:16-18. *Cohen* is discussed further below. Setting aside that the
 27 *Cohen* court misinterpreted *Tobacco II*, as discussed below, Defendant is mischaracterizing *Cohen's*
 28 "ascertainability" holding. In fact, the *Cohen* court flatly rejected the trial court's holding that the
 class was not ascertainable, holding that it was ascertainable. See *Cohen, supra* at 975-78 (noting,
inter alia, that the trial court had confused commonality and ascertainability and that "the defined
 class of all HD package subscribers is precise, with objective characteristics and transactional
 parameters, and can be determined by DIRECTV's own account records. No more is needed.")

Here, Plaintiff's class definition does not include anyone who did not pay money to Cingular, based, as alleged, at least in part on its Fewest Dropped Calls claims. Thus, it is not overbroad in the sense that the class in *Sanders* was. Moreover, it bears noting that *Sanders* pre-dated *Tobacco II*, which confirms that after Prop 64 absent class members in a UCL/FAL action (still) need not prove reliance or injury to recover restitution of money that "may have been acquired" by means of the unfair business practice. *Tobacco II*, 46 Cal. 4th at 320.

Finally, although its section *heading* (Opp., 8:10) references an absence of numerosity, Cingular does not actually *argue* in its brief that the proposed California class is not sufficiently numerous for class treatment. Any such argument would be absurd. The class consists of, at least, hundreds of thousands of persons, and Cingular does not, and cannot truthfully, dispute this.

2. Commonality Exists As Every Cingular Ad During The Class Period Made The "Fewest Dropped Calls" Claim.

Rule 23(a)(2)'s commonality requirement is "minimal" and should be construed permissively. *Hanlon v. Chrysler Corp.*, 150 F.3d 1011, 1019-20 (9th Cir.1998). "[W]hat must be satisfied for the commonality inquiry under Rule 23(a)(2) is that plaintiffs establish common *questions* of law and fact, and answering those questions is the purpose of the merits inquiry, which can be addressed at trial and summary judgment." *Dukes v. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.*, __ F.3d __, 2010 U.S. App. LEXIS 8576, *56 (9th Cir. Cal. Apr. 26, 2010). Importantly, "it is the plaintiff's *theory* that matters at the class certification stage, not whether the theory will ultimately succeed on the merits." *Id.* at *34 (citations omitted).

Cingular does not, and cannot refute the numerous key questions of fact and law common to all class members here specified in Pltf. Mem. at 14. As Plaintiff previously showed, these questions can be answered through the use of common evidence. Pltf. Mem. at 4-11, 18-22.

Despite the common issues identified in Plaintiff's opening brief, Cingular contends commonality is lacking because some of its ads allegedly varied to some degree. The argument lacks merit, since the Fewest Dropped Calls claim was contained in all of Cingular's ads during the Class Period, and Cingular has offered no evidence to the contrary. Likewise, Cingular's argument regarding what individual class members saw or heard is premised on an incorrect understanding of California law. Significantly, every putative class member here was exposed to the Cingular Fewest

1 Dropped Calls ads before renewing or initiating Cingular's wireless service. Indeed, Cingular spent
 2 [REDACTED] - in California - on the Fewest Dropped Calls ads and blanketed all forms of media
 3 (i.e., television, print, billboards, etc.) with those ads as well as its website and in its stores, such that
 4 signing-up or renewing service without being exposed to the ads was not realistically possible. Pltf.
 5 Mem. at 4-5. Cingular has not shown otherwise.

6 Seeking to obfuscate the centrality and breadth of its Fewest Dropped Calls campaign,
 7 Cingular attacks commonality by claiming some ads contained *additional* language. Opp. at 9-10.
 8 But this is irrelevant since each ad also included the Fewest Dropped Calls claim. Cingular next
 9 relies on Plaintiff's testimony for the proposition that its ads were different. However, the ads have
 10 been produced and the Court can determine for itself as a matter of law if any differences are material
 11 under the objective reasonable consumer test. *Tobacco II*, 46 Cal. 4th at 327. Plaintiff's testimony is
 12 thus not relevant to this determination, but it is noteworthy that Plaintiff never said the "Fewest
 13 Dropped Calls" claim in the ads were substantively different. To the contrary, Plaintiff stated that all
 14 the ads were essentially the same. Kalt. Dep., pp. 149:21-150:3.

15 Moreover, any questions that may arise as to the competency of such evidence only support a
 16 finding of commonality here. *Dukes*, 2010 LEXIS 8576, *103 ("While Plaintiffs and Wal-Mart
 17 disagree on whose findings are more persuasive, the disagreement is not one whether Plaintiffs have
 18 asserted common questions of law or fact. The disagreement *is* the common question, and deciding
 19 which side has been more persuasive is an issue for the next phase of the litigation.") (internal
 20 quotations and citations omitted). Here, any disputed questions concerning whether the "Fewest
 21 Dropped Calls" tag-line was "likely to deceive" an ordinary consumer; whether the data used to
 22 support the assertion was reliable; and/or whether Cingular's Fewest Dropped Calls claim made in
 23 the State of California was supported, can be answered utilizing common evidence.

24 3. Typicality

25 Cingular's typicality argument is simply a laundry list of irrelevant differences between
 26 Plaintiff and class members. Most of them rest on Cingular's faulty notion that absent class members
 27 must show individualized reliance on Cingular's fewest dropped calls ads. Op. Br. at 10-13. Cf.
 28 *Tobacco II*, 46 Cal. 4th at 320 (proof of reliance for each absent class members is *not* required for a

1 UCL claim); *Westways World Travel*, 218 F.R.D. at 238 (reliance *not* an element of a breach of
2 contract or unjust enrichment claim). Others rest on Cingular's misconception that Plaintiff's and
3 class members' dropped call experience and how that experience was affected by the type of phone
4 used is relevant to the Class' claims. The claims in this case are not about how many dropped calls
5 any particular class member experienced, but instead are about whether Cingular's ad claim that it
6 had the Fewest Dropped Calls was false and misleading and whether it was material to class
7 members' decisions to renew or sign-up. That can be determined by the trier of fact by examining
8 Cingular's ads and the data it relied on for its claim, the materiality of which the Court will
9 objectively determine based on a reasonable person standard. *Tobacco II*, 46 Cal. 4th at 327 ("A
10 misrepresentation is judged to be 'material' if 'a reasonable man would attach importance to its
11 existence or nonexistence in determining a choice of action in the transaction in question....").

12 Cingular asserts Plaintiff is not typical of the Class because he saw Cingular's Fewest
13 Dropped Calls ads while some class members may not have and that some of its ads contained
14 different language. Its arguments are irrelevant given the scope of its ad campaign and implausibility
15 of any class member signing-up or renewing service without being exposed to those ads as detailed in
16 the commonality discussion above.

17 Next, Cingular postulates that Plaintiff's interpretation of Cingular's ads is a-typical because a
18 reasonable consumer would not understand Cingular ads to mean it had the Fewest Dropped Calls
19 "everywhere in the nation." What Plaintiff actually said was "I have to rely on what your actual
20 statements were where were they had the fewest dropped calls . . . There was no other statement at
21 the bottom that said, hey, we're actually Number 2 or 4 or whatever in California. It just said fewest
22 dropped calls." Kalt. Dep. at 91:4-13. Cingular's own [REDACTED] showed consumers
23 interpreted its ads to mean [REDACTED] Kravec Dec., Ex. 4 (CW-K-108416). While
24 reasonable consumer interpretations are for the Court to determine, Plaintiff's interpretation is
25 certainly not a-typical.

26 Cingular's other alleged differences are likewise irrelevant. That Plaintiff moved to Virginia
27 after he signed up for Cingular's service in Monterey, California is irrelevant as the claim is about the
28 misleading nature of Cingular's ads in consumer's decision to sign-up or renew Cingular services

1 which for Plaintiff occurred in California like all other class members. That some class members had
 2 Cingular service and renewed and others were new customers creates no real difference as Cingular
 3 was claiming it had the fewest dropped calls based on independent data that was concealed from
 4 consumers. Moreover, Plaintiff's conversations with Cingular's sales people could not have revealed
 5 the truth as that data was not disclosed to Cingular sales people.

6 Last, Cingular's original and revised arbitration clauses were rejected by this Court and
 7 affirmed by the Ninth Circuit in an appeal in this action (ECF 62 and 101) and in *Laster v. AT&T*
 8 *Mobility, LLC*, 584 F.3d 849 (9th Cir. 2009), as was any argument Cingular makes based on Plaintiff
 9 moving to Virginia after he renewed in California. Cingular's Hail Mary attempt to seek *certiorari* to
 10 the United States Supreme Court of *Laster* is no reason to deny certification here. Even if *Laster*
 11 were reversed, it would not apply to those persons like Plaintiff for whom the original arbitration
 12 clause applies so all that might be affected is the size of the class not whether there is a class.
 13 Cingular's remaining typicality arguments have been fully addressed in the Article III standing
 14 section above.

15 4. Adequacy

16 Cingular presents no legitimate reason why Plaintiff is inadequate. First, as shown in
 17 Arguments B.1 – B.3 above, Plaintiff did rely on Cingular's fewest dropped calls ads to renew and
 18 the falsity of Cingular's ads can be established by common evidence from Cingular's own data.
 19 Second, while a representative plaintiff may be inadequate if evidence shows he ceded control of the
 20 litigation to counsel so counsel is the "driving force," Cingular has presented no evidence
 21 whatsoever that Plaintiff has "cede[d] control of this litigation to counsel" or that his prior
 22 "relationship with Plaintiff's counsel" somehow means he will cede control. Indeed, as detailed in
 23 Plaintiff's opening memorandum, Plaintiff understands the class claims brought, that he has a
 24 responsibility to do whatever he can to advance the interests of the Class, that he has spent "hundreds
 25 of hours" on the case, and that he wishes to represent the Class and he expects nothing more than
 26 what the Court deems appropriate for himself and all Class members. Kalt. Dep. at 9:5-10:12, 20:20-
 27 21:5, 31:21-32:11, 52:12-53:22, 167:2-18. This more than meets the adequacy standard. *Kanawai v.*
 28 *Bechtel Corp.*, 254 F.R.D. 102, 110 (N.D. Cal. 2008), citing *Sorowitz v. Hilton Hotels Corp.*, 383

U.S. 363, 373 (1963) and *In re Tableware Antitrust Litigation*, 241 F.R.D. 644, 649-50 (N.D. Cal. 2007)(“ . . . the representatives must have some familiarity with the litigation, although a detailed understanding of the theories and facts of the case is not required.”).⁴

Cingular also muses that Plaintiff’s damage model ignores “individual harm or experience” so he should be deemed inadequate because it might be unfair to some class members. In fact, as shown in Argument C. 1, Plaintiff’s damage model seeks restitutionary disgorgement of Cingular’s profits made on all Class members who initiated or renewed during Cingular’s false and misleading Fewest Dropped Calls campaign. It has hard to conceive how this well-established form of relief would be unfair to any class members, let alone create such a degree of unfairness among class members as to make Plaintiff inadequate.⁵

C. Predominance is Readily Established in this Case

1. Professor Polinsky’s Opinions and Cingular’s Criticisms of Plaintiff’s Damage Model are Incompetent and Rely Solely on Non-Existent Legal Standards

Despite admitting he has no specialized or expert knowledge on liability issues, Professor Polinsky conceded at his deposition that all of his opinions concerning individualized proof for liability purposes are rendered irrelevant if class members are not required to prove individualized reliance. Kravec Suppl. Dec., Exh. 1 (Polinsky Dep. at 74:4-75:11; 96:9-24). As demonstrated in the following sections, absent class members are not required to prove individualized reliance under the UCL, nor is reliance an element of breach of contract or unjust enrichment claims. *Tobacco II*, 46 Cal. 4th at 320 (proof of absent class members’ reliance *not* required under UCL); *Westways World*

⁴ Likewise, that Plaintiff did not know the source of a few documents out of the hundreds he produced in discovery does not make him inadequate as Cingular implies. Nor does the fact that he may have discarded some monthly billing statements Cingular sent to him after the litigation started since they have no bearing on whether Cingular’s false and misleading ads were material to his decision to renew and Cingular has copies of those billing statements anyway. Moreover, Plaintiff provided all other documents to his counsel. Kalt. Dep. at 116:20-117:1. Lastly, Plaintiff does have the ability to take time off from his naval duties for this case and has done so for the 2 depositions Cingular has taken of him. Kalt. Dep. at 26:7-27:19. The hypothetical possibility that something different may happen in the future is no reason to find Plaintiff inadequate.

⁵ Cingular notes that Plaintiff did not move to certify his CLRA claim. But that claim seeks only injunctive relief that Plaintiff could obtain without class certification and which would provide the same benefit if the CLRA injunctive claim were certified. Thus, not seeking to certify that CLRA claim gives up nothing for the Class.

1 *Travel*, 218 F.R.D. at 238 (reliance *not* an element of a breach of contract or unjust enrichment
2 claim).

3 Moreover, Professor Polinsky concedes that his criticisms from an economic perspective of
4 Dr. French's class-wide restitutionary disgorgement relief model would not apply if individualized
5 proof of harm or reliance on Cingular's fewest dropped calls ads did not need to be shown under the
6 law. Polinsky Dep. at 74:4-75:11; 96:9-24. In fact, Professor Polinsky agreed that Dr. French's
7 model for calculating Cingular's profit on class members' transactions for restitutionary
8 disgorgement was accurate. *Id.* at 102:17-103:3; 110:23-111:4. Professor Polinsky further conceded
9 that Dr. French's calculation of apportioning the [REDACTED] in the costs of the deceptive Fewest
10 Dropped Calls ads to class members was accurate if the Court determined that those costs should not
11 be recoverable. *Id.* at 107:8-108:15.

12 Cingular is incorrect in contending that restitutionary disgorgement of profits on affected
13 transactions is not an available remedy in absence of individualized proof of harm or reliance. To
14 support its incorrect notion, Cingular cites cases discussing "restitution" that requires individual proof
15 of harm rather than "restitutionary disgorgement" that does not. Op. Br., 16, 22-25.

16 As California Supreme Court clarified, restitutionary disgorgement of profits is an available
17 remedy under the UCL. *See Korea Supply Co. v. Lock-heed Martin Corp.*, 29 Cal.4th 1134, 1144
18 (2003)("Under the UCL, an individual may recover profits unfairly obtained to the extent that these
19 profits represent monies given to the defendant or benefits in which the plaintiff has an ownership
20 interest."). The Supreme Court further held that restitutionary disgorgement relief "under the UCL is
21 available without individualized proof of deception, reliance and injury." *Pfizer, Inc. v. Superior*
22 *Court*, 182 Cal. App. 4th 622, 631 (2010), *quoting Tobacco II*, 46 Cal. 4th at 320. Thus, as *Pfizer*
23 concluded, all that is left is showing class members were "exposed" to the deceptive advertising
24 (although a petition for review is pending and even that requirement may be reversed). *Id.*

25 Here, as shown in Argument B. 2 above, the scope of Cingular's Fewest Dropped Calls ad
26 campaign with [REDACTED] spent on it in California and with ads blanketing every form of media
27 as well as displayed in all Cingular stores and websites where consumers sign-up and renew wireless
28 service creates an implausibility of any class member signing-up or renewing service without being

1 exposed to those ads. Cingular has offered no evidence to the contrary. As discussed in detail in the
 2 next section, the concern in *Pfizer* where Listerine bottles had 34 types of labels available at the same
 3 time and only 19 of them had the misleading content so many people bought without receiving the
 4 misleading label simply does not exist here where all of Cingular's advertising during the Class
 5 Period had the uniform Fewest Dropped Calls claim and all class members would have had to be
 6 exposed to them in order to sign-up or renew. Thus, under *Tobacco II*, because "individualized proof
 7 of deception, reliance and injury" is not required for absent class members, Dr. French's
 8 restitutionary disgorgement model is a proper method of determining class-wide relief. *Id.*

9 Moreover, it is also permissible for this Court to use its equitable powers to deny Cingular
 10 credit for the [REDACTED] cost of the deceptive Fewest Dropped Call ads in accessing the amount
 11 recoverable under restitutionary disgorgement. *Park v. Cytodyne Technologies, Inc.*, 2003 WL
 12 21283814 (Cal. Sup. Ct., May 30, 2003) ("It would be inequitable to allow the defendant to reduce the
 13 amount of restitution by the amount spent on the misleading advertisements" and the Court used its
 14 equitable powers to disallow that reduction).⁶ Thus, Dr. French's alternative model not deducting
 15 those advertising costs from revenues for purposes of ascertaining Cingular's profits to be disgorged
 16 and instead apportioning them to class members is a viable class-wide relief model as well.

17 2. Defendant Ignores The Lessons of *Tobacco II*

18 Defendant's "predominance" argument is based largely on the proposition that to
 19 establish UCL/FAL liability and a right to restitutionary relief on a class-wide basis, the Court
 20 would have to make all sorts of individual inquiries focused on class members' actual
 21 deception/harm, reliance, "damages," purchasing decisions, etc. Defendant is wrong. As the
 22 California Supreme Court recently reaffirmed, "*the UCL's focus [is] on the defendant's*
 23 *conduct, rather than the plaintiff's damages. . . .*" *Tobacco II*, 46 Cal. 4th at 312 (Emphasis
 24 added). Its purpose is to restore the *status quo ante*. *Kraus v. Trinity Management Services,*
 25 *Inc.*, 23 Cal. 4th 116, 121 (2000). Thus, restitutionary disgorgement "*may be ordered 'without*
 26

27 ⁶ See also *People v. Outdoor Media Group*, 13 Cal. App. 4th 1067, 1073 (1993) ("We decline to
 28 allow credit for the expenses of conducting what was, in effect, an illegal business."); *A&M Records,*
Inc. v. Heilman, 75 Cal. App. 3d 554, 570 (1978) (same).

1 individualized proof of *deception, reliance, and injury* if necessary to prevent the use or
 2 employment of an unfair practice.” (internal citations omitted) *Tobacco II*, 46 Cal. 4th at 320
 3 n.14.

4 *Tobacco II* confirms that reliance is merely something that *the class representative* must
 5 establish in order to have *standing*, following Prop 64’s imposition of a “standing”
 6 requirement,” in order to bring a UCL claim. The *Tobacco II* Court was careful to qualify its
 7 discussion of reliance as applicable *only* to the named class representatives and *only* for standing
 8 purposes—not to the unnamed class members and not for purposes of liability at trial. *Tobacco*
 9 *II* at 306, 328, 329. Thus, reliance is irrelevant to whether common questions predominate on
 10 liability in a UCL case like this one since proof of individualized reliance, deception and injury
 11 for *absent class members* is not required. All that must be proven at trial to establish a
 12 violation of the UCL’s “fraudulent” prong is that “members of the public are likely to be
 13 deceived” by the defendant’s conduct. *Id.* at 312; *see also Williams v. Gerber Products Co.*, 552
 14 F.3d 934 (9th Cir. 2008). Again, **out of “concern that wrongdoers not retain the benefits of**
 15 **their misconduct,” recovery is “available without individualized proof of deception,**
 16 **reliance, and injury.”** *Tobacco II*, 46 Cal. 4th at 320. The “focus [will be] on the defendant’s
 17 conduct,” and therefore on what the *defendant gained*, “in service of the statute’s larger purpose
 18 of protecting the general public against unscrupulous business practices.” *Tobacco II* at 298.

19 3. The Cases Cingular Relies On Are Inapposite, At Best

20 Defendant relies heavily on *Cohen*, 178 Cal. App. 4th 966. *Cohen* badly misinterpreted
 21 *Tobacco II*. Although, under *Tobacco II*, “reliance” is not an element of a UCL claim, and although
 22 *Tobacco II* holds that unnamed class members need not prove “reliance,” *Cohen* nonetheless holds
 23 that class certification may be defeated based on individualized questions surrounding unnamed class
 24 members’ “reliance.” *See Cohen*, 178 Cal. App. 4th at 981 (unnamed class members’ “reliance” was
 25 “a proper criterion for the court’s consideration when examining ‘commonality’”). That holding is
 26 contrary to *Tobacco II*, in which the Supreme Court expressly reinstated an order granting class
 27 certification of a UCL “fraudulent” prong claim, holding that the lower courts *erred* by considering
 28 individualized questions surrounding unnamed class members’ reliance. 46 Cal.4th at 311, *passim*.

1 Indeed, the only post-*Cohen* appellate decision involving these issues that has even cited
 2 *Cohen* – a decision from a different division of the *same* Second District Court of Appeal - did so
 3 critically, in reversing the denial of class certification in a case alleging UCL and CLRA claims. *In*
 4 *re Steroid Hormone Product Cases*, 181 Cal. App. 4th 145, 158 (2010). *Cohen* simply misread
 5 *Tobacco II* and should not be followed.⁷

6 Cingular also seeks to rely on *Pfizer*, 182 Cal. App. 4th 622. That case also is inapposite.
 7 *Pfizer* involved marketing claims regarding the benefits of Listerine mouthwash and its ability to
 8 replace dental floss. The *Pfizer* court rejected Cingular's present argument that after *Tobacco II*
 9 absent class members must show reliance on allegedly misleading representations or advertising.
 10 *Pfizer*, 182 Cal. App. 4th at 631 (citing *Tobacco II*, 46 Cal. App. 4th at 320). However, the court
 11 found the class was "grossly overbroad" because "one who was not exposed to the alleged
 12 misrepresentations and therefore could not possibly have lost money or property as a result of the
 13 unfair competition is not entitled to restitution." *Id.* Defendant Pfizer offered *evidence* – lacking
 14 here – that 19 of the 34 different mouthwash bottles on the market did not even contain the
 15 challenged statements, and, based on that and other *evidence*, the Court found that "perhaps the
 16 majority of class members who purchased Listerine" during the class period did so not because of
 17 "any" exposure to the allegedly deceptive conduct. *Id.*, at 631-32. After distinguishing the pervasive
 18 marketing campaign in *Tobacco II*, the court repeated:

19
 20
 21 ⁷ *Cohen* also is distinguishable, as the *Steroid Hormone* court also observed at p. 158 of its opinion.
 22 *Cohen* involved claims that DIRECTV violated the UCL by inducing subscribers to buy high
 23 definition services through misleading advertising that its broadcast of those channels would meet
 24 certain technical specifications regarding bandwidth of transmission. Setting aside that the plaintiffs
 25 in *Cohen* sought nationwide certification and Plaintiff here does not, DIRECTV put on evidence
 26 (including declarations from subscribers) showing that many of them made purchases of the HD
 27 channels unrelated to the advertising of the technical specifications. *Cohen* at 970. *See also Steroid*
 28 *Hormone Product Cases* at 158. The appeals court found that "the record" supported the finding that
 the class included subscribers who "never saw DIRECTV advertisements or representations of any
 kind" before buying the HD services, and subscribers "who only saw and/or relied upon
 advertisements that contained no mention of technical terms regarding bandwidth or pixels" *Id.*,
 at 979. Cingular has offered no such evidence. Nor can it claim that representations about various
 technical bandwidth specifications are the same as its [REDACTED] saturation marketing campaign
 of the Fewest Dropped Calls claim. As shown by the evidence cited in Plaintiff's opening brief,
 Cingular's campaign expressly recognized the importance of its Fewest Dropped Calls claim to
 consumers. Pltf. Mem. at 4-5.

1 “[L]arge numbers of class members were *never exposed* to the ‘as effective as floss’ labels or
 2 television commercials. As to such consumers, there is absolutely no likelihood they were
 3 deceived by the alleged false or misleading advertising or promotional campaign. Such
 4 persons cannot meet the standard of section 17203 of having money restored to them because
 it ‘may have been acquired by means of’ the unfair the unfair practice. In the language of
 section 17203, with respect to perhaps a majority of class members, there is no doubt Pfizer
 did not obtain any money by means of the alleged UCL violation.”

5 *Id.*, at 632-33 (italics in original, underlining added).

6 Suffice it to say that Cingular has offered no such evidence here. Instead, it merely speculates
 7 that there *may* be some people who did not *rely* on its fewest dropped calls campaign, even though its
 8 Fewest Dropped Calls ads were *everywhere* – on TV, on the radio, at all its stores, on its website, on
 9 billboards, and in virtually every single print ad during the period in question. Pltf. Mem. at 4. It
 10 certainly has not offered a shred of evidence even suggesting that any large portion of the class – let
 11 alone a *majority* of class members - were *never exposed at all* to its misleading campaign. Indeed,
 12 it has not offered evidence that *any* member of the class of persons who purchased its cell phone
 13 service during the class period was not exposed to its pervasive Fewest Dropped Calls campaign.
 14 *Pfizer* gives it no help, even assuming the California Supreme Court does not render it un-citable in
 15 connection with the pending petition for review.

16 Defendant cites *Kaldenbach v. Mutual of Omaha Life Ins. Co.*, 178 Cal. App. 4th 830 (2009).
 17 That case merely found there was no abuse of discretion in denying class certification where the
 18 evidence suggested that the alleged class-wide *practice* of marketing “vanishing premium” policies in
 19 a misleading fashion did not in fact exist. The appeals court implicitly agreed that the trial court’s
 20 reliance on alleged complexities in establishing each absent class member’s reliance on the
 21 representations and resulting injury was erroneous in light of *Tobacco II*. *Kaldenbach* at 848. But it
 22 found there were many *other* individual issues that went “not to the injury suffered by a purchaser,
 23 but to whether there was in fact an unfair **business practice** by Mutual.” *Id.* (Emphasis added.) The
 24 *Kaldenbach* court, in examining the certification ruling, thus properly focused on *the defendant’s*
 25 *conduct*, rather than the damages or injury to class members, consistent with *Tobacco II*. Here,
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 27
 28

1 Plaintiff has offered more than ample evidence that there was a practice, and his allegations that the
2 practice was deceptive and unfair must be accepted as true.⁸

3 Defendant also mentions *Hodes v. Van's Int'l Foods*, 2009 WL 2424214 (C.D. Cal. July 23,
4 2009) (Opp., 18:4-5.) That case involved a variety of claims (including breach of warranty claims,
5 fraud claims and UCL/FAL claims) against four different food companies for selling frozen waffles
6 with fraudulent nutritional information. The court denied class certification based on concerns about
7 the plaintiff's ability to identify the tens of thousands of consumers who had purchased such waffles
8 and, relatedly, because there were individual questions about "*which kind* of waffles they purchased,
9 *how many* they purchased, and whether the kinds they purchased contained false nutritional
10 information." *Hodes, supra* at *4. (Emphasis in original.)⁹ No such concerns exist here, since all the
11 advertising contained the "Fewest Dropped Calls" claim and the class members are identifiable from
12 Cingular's records.

13 *Sanchez v. Wal Mart Stores, Inc.*, 2009 WL 1514435 (E.D. Cal. May 28, 2009) is similarly
14 inapposite. It involved claims based on the allegedly misleading marketing of \$20 strollers, which, as
15

16 ⁸ Defendant also seeks to rely on *In re VIOXX Class Cases*, 180 Cal. App. 4th 116 (2009)
17 (review denied Mar. 30, 2010). But that court also *agreed* that recovery under the UCL is allowed
18 "without proof that the funds were lost as a result of actual reliance on defendant's deceptive
19 conduct" (*id.* at 131) and "without proof of deception, reliance, and injury." *Id.*, 134. (*citing Tobacco*
20 *II*). However, the case presented complex medical issues, and, critically, the plaintiffs proposed
21 theory of valuing restitution that was necessarily individualized -- the difference in *value* between
22 Vioxx and the *value* of a *proper generic comparator drug*. The court found that the plaintiffs could
23 not establish the existence, on a class basis, of a measurable amount of restitution, since the proposed
24 valuation scheme depended on determining proper comparator drugs for people with different
25 medical needs, histories and drug interactions. Individual issues would predominate in doing so. *Id.*,
26 at 136. ***While Defendant plainly dislikes Plaintiff's theory of restitutionary disgorgement and***
27 ***would prefer that Plaintiff was seeking damages, that does not mean that Plaintiff's theory***
28 ***presents the same individualized issues in this case.***

23 ⁹ The other cases Defendant references briefly in footnote 23 are likewise inapposite and of little
24 value in considering the claims here. *Endres v. Wells Fargo Bank*, 2009 WL 344204 (N.D. Cal. Feb.
25 6, 2008), for example, is factually distinguishable, based on the *evidence* that Wells Fargo offered
26 (that the ads varied over time and location, that challenged oral statements varied by speaker and
27 were "widely varying" and "non-standardized", etc.) *Id.*, at *8. Moreover, the case pre-dated and
28 thus did not discuss the import of *Tobacco II*. Similarly, *Mahfood v. QVC, Inc.*, 2008 WL 5381088
(C.D. Cal. Sept. 22, 2008) did not discuss *Tobacco II* or analyze the UCL claim separately, involved
utterly distinguishable facts, and conclusions by the court that class members were required to
establish they were actually misled and suffered damages due to having been misled. *Id.*, at *5. No
such issues exist here.

1 alleged were unsafe and led some purchasers to return them. *Sanchez* involves no discussion of
 2 *Tobacco II* (decided ten days earlier), and no discussion of what the district court believed were the
 3 elements of the claims at issue. Indeed, the opinion does not even identify the claims that were at
 4 issue, other than to suggest that the plaintiffs were bringing warranty-based claims (relating to
 5 “merchantable quality” and fitness for “intended and reasonable uses”) and were seeking “equitable
 6 relief, including restitution and injunctive relief” *Id.*, at *1. The court found that the plaintiff
 7 failed to meet the typicality and adequacy requirements, and then, with respect to predominance,
 8 focused on allegedly individualized issues relating to the class members’ injuries, damages and
 9 reliance on the representations at issue (*id.*, at *2-4). Whatever the merits of the *Sanchez* court’s
 10 analysis based on the claims, facts and evidence that were before it, such issues are irrelevant to the
 11 claims brought by Plaintiff here. Rather, as *Tobacco II* makes clear, the focus under the UCL/FAL is
 12 on the defendant’s conduct, not the plaintiffs’ injury, reliance or damages. 46 Cal. 4th at 320.¹⁰ Even
 13 Cingular’s own cited authority – *Pfizer* – confirms that, at most, Plaintiff must show that the monies
 14 at issue “may have been acquired” as a result of the unfair/fraudulent business practice. *Pfizer*, 182
 15 Cal. App. 4th at 632-33; Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203.

16 In sum, Defendant’s claims that individual inquiries exist as to Plaintiffs’ UCL and FAL
 17 claims, regarding reliance, causation, etc., are simply wrong in light of *Tobacco II*.

18 4. Breach of Contract Requires No Individualized Proof

19 Defendant contends that Plaintiff’s contract claim fails to satisfy Fed.R.Civ.P 23(b)(3)
 20 because: (1) individual issues predominate; and (2) Plaintiff has not set forth a cognizable theory of
 21 damages. (Opp. at 25). These arguments lack merit.

22 Defendant first argues that resolution of Plaintiff’s contract claim will require individual
 23 inquiry as to each class member’s expectations, their understanding of the contract, how many
 24 dropped calls they experienced and an exploration of what each class member would have
 25 experienced had they contracted with another carrier. Not so. Here, we have standard-form

26
 27 ¹⁰ Similarly, whatever the merit of the *Sanchez* court’s conclusions about the defendant’s “due
 28 process” rights to present “every available defense” to the claims at issue in that case (*id.* at *4), such
 concerns are misplaced here, because the “defenses” referenced in *Sanchez* are simply *not defenses* to
 any of the claims pleaded by Plaintiff.

contracts which were presented to Plaintiff and every class member. Defendant does not argue otherwise. The contracts were drafted by Cingular and presented to class members on a take-it-or-leave-it basis. Plainly, Cingular intended there to be a common understanding and expectation from the contract. That common understanding and any expectations related thereto are subject to determination under a reasonably prudent person standard – an inquiry that can easily and should properly be done on a class-wide basis. The final inquiry Defendant posits - “whether each class member would have experienced fewer dropped calls with another wireless provider” - is irrelevant to Cingular’s liability for breach of contract, and also nonsensically asks the fact-finder to engage in a speculative guessing game. Cingular apparently thinks it can breach its contracts with impunity so long as its customers cannot show they would have received better service elsewhere. If only.

The Supreme Court has recognized that “contract law is not at its core diverse, nonuniform, and confusing,” a conclusion logically lending itself to certifying contract claims. *American Airlines v. Wolens*, 513 U.S. 219, 223 (1995). Indeed, breach of contract claims are routinely certified for class treatment. *See, e.g., Westways World Travel*, 218 F.R.D. 223, 239. The contracts at issue are standard form contracts. The alleged breach is an identical contractual promise made to all class members that Cingular had the Fewest Dropped Calls when it did not. When elements, such as these, are objectively measurable (*i.e.*, subject to a reasonably prudent person standard) class certification is appropriate. *Yokoyama v. Midland Nat. Life Ins. Co.*, 594 F.3d 1087, 1093-94 (9th Cir. 2010) (reversing denial of class certification in case based on contents of form documents which allegedly were likely to deceive a reasonable consumer and thus did not require individualized inquiry); *Lozano v. AT & T Wireless Services, Inc.*, 504 F.3d 718, 737 (9th Cir. 2007) (same); *Vathana v. EverBank*, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 35665, 12-14 (N.D. Cal. Mar. 15, 2010) (similar).

With respect to damages, the final element of a breach of contract claim, Defendant argues that (1) disgorgement is not an appropriate measure of damages; and (2) plaintiff has otherwise failed to present a cognizable theory damages because it is impossible to measure the difference between what consumers were promised and what they received. Again, these arguments lack merit.

As detailed in the French Report, “[t]he basis of Plaintiff’s claim for damages ... is to recover the profits that Cingular derived from California subscribers who initiated or renewed Cingular

wireless service agreements during the Class Period.” French Report at ¶76. Separate from the breach of contract claim, Plaintiff also seek relief for unjust enrichment (Complaint at ¶¶76-78). The Ninth Circuit has held that “under California law, a defendant's unjust enrichment can satisfy the damages element of a breach of contract claim, such that disgorgement is a proper remedy.” *Foster Poultry Farms, Inc. v. SunTrust Bank*, 2010 U.S. App. LEXIS 8827 (9th Cir. Cal. Apr. 26, 2010), citing *Ajaxo, Inc. v. E*Trade Group, Inc.*, 37 Cal. Rptr. 3d 221 at 247-49 (2005) (disgorgement appropriate where defendant was unjustly enriched by breaching a non-disclosure agreement); *Snepp v. United States*, 444 U.S. 507, 511-15, 100 S. Ct. 763, 62 L. Ed. 2d 704 (1980) (per curiam) (constructive trust on profits from a book was an appropriate remedy for breach of a contract requiring author to submit his material for clearance by the Central Intelligence Agency before publication, where the government's harm from the breach was unquantifiable, but author's unjust gains were the result of the breach).¹¹

While Defendant assails Plaintiff's underlying theory of damages, it does not, because it cannot, contend that resolution of the theory is somehow different for each class member. Indeed, the theory of determining damages will be the exact same for each member of the class making this issue common to the class and clearly certifiable. That the ultimate *amount* each class member would be entitled to under this theory may differ is also of no consequence in analyzing the viability of class certification. *Yokoyama*, 594 F.3d at 1089.

5. Quasi-Contract/Unjust Enrichment Requires No Individualized Proof

With respect to Plaintiff's sixth claim for quasi-contract/unjust enrichment, Defendant argues that: (1) determining whether a valid contract existed would be an individualized inquiry; (2) the amount of unjust enrichment differs for each class member thereby necessitating individualized inquiry; and (3) allowing pursuit of such relief would impermissibly allow Plaintiff to circumvent the “damage limitations of the UCL.” (Opp. at 27-28). These arguments fail as shown below.

¹¹ Defendant's reliance on *Watson Laboratories Inc v. Rhone-Poulenc Rorer*, 2001 WL 1673258 (C.D. Cal. 2001) is misplaced. In *Watson*, the court on a motion in limine determined that disgorgement was not an appropriate remedy for Plaintiff's breach of contract because it would result in an inequity. Notably, the court did not preclude Plaintiff from recovering compensatory damages. The court further recognized that its holding was unique to facts of the case, recognizing that “equitable remedies sometimes can be awarded for breach of contract” at *4.

1 First, Plaintiff pled his sixth claim as an alternative to breach of contract. Such alternative
 2 pleading is entirely proper. *PAE Government Services, Inc. v. MPRI, Inc.*, 514 F.3d 856, 858 (9th
 3 Cir. 2007) (“we allow pleadings in the alternative-even if the alternatives are mutually exclusive.”);
 4 *see also* Fed. R. Civ. Proc. 8(d)(2), (3). Defendant asserts determining whether a valid contract
 5 existed for each class member would require a case-by-case analysis. (Opp at 27). This argument
 6 makes little sense. Plaintiff and each class member received a standard form contract with boilerplate
 7 provisions offered on a take-it-or-leave-it basis. No one has sued for common law fraud or mistake,
 8 so Cingular’s suggestions about those issues and the possibility of individual rescissions are
 9 speculative and unsupported. By signing, Plaintiff and class members were obligated to (and did)
 10 pay fees. If the contract suffered from any infirmity that could render Plaintiff’s contract claim moot,
 11 then it would apply equally to every class member.¹²

12 Second, as discussed in the context of Plaintiff’s breach of contract claim, the ultimate
 13 amount of money each class member might recover if it were determined that Cingular unjustly
 14 enriched itself by means of its conduct might or might not be different, but such differences, if any,
 15 would not undermine class treatment. *Yokoyama*, 594 F.3d at 1089.

16 Finally, Plaintiff recognizes that restitution under the UCL is an equitable remedy and to the
 17 extent he seeks disgorgement under this claim, it has been limited to restitutionary disgorgement.
 18 Indeed, as the French Report clearly states, “[t]he basis of Plaintiff’s claim for damages in this matter
 19 is to recover the profits that Cingular derived from California subscribers who initiated or renewed
 20 Cingular wireless service agreements during the Class Period. French Dec. ¶76 (emphasis added).

21 Moreover, even if the disgorgement that Plaintiff sought was not restitutionary in nature, it
 22 too would be a proper basis of remuneration because it is only under the UCL that disgorgement must
 23 be restitutionary in nature. Defendant’s reliance on *Peterson v. Celco Partnership*, 164 Cal. App.
 24

25 ¹² Defendant’s reliance on *Deitz v. Comcast Corp.*, 2007 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 53188 (2007), is
 26 misplaced. There, plaintiff on an unjust enrichment claim sought to certify a class of all subscribers
 27 who were incorrectly charged. But uniformity was lacking in *Deitz* because the defendant had not
 28 issued standard form contracts to all class members. *Id* at *23. Many class members also had
 different cable services, some of which allowed the cable company to levy charges for converter
 boxes, while others did not. The individualized inquiries necessitated in *Deitz* are simply not present
 here.

4th 1583 (Cal. App. 4th Dist. 2008) is misplaced. In *Peterson* the plaintiffs predicated their UCL claims solely on the violation of the Insurance Code, which itself did not confer a private right of action. The Court dismissed the UCL claims because the plaintiff was unable to demonstrate a monetary injury to satisfy the *standing* requirement. The plaintiff then attempted to resuscitate the case by pleading the same facts as an unjust enrichment claim. The Court held there was no unjust enrichment because plaintiffs had received the benefit of their bargain (insurance). The court also noted that it would be improper to adjudicate a UCL action (for which the plaintiffs did not have standing) under the guise of unjust enrichment. *Peterson*, 164 Cal. App. 4th at 1596. The *Peterson* facts are inapposite here, where Plaintiff both has standing to pursue a UCL claim and has alleged other UCL-independent claims under which relief is not limited to restitutionary disgorgement.

D. A Class Action is the Sole Efficient Method for the Management of this Litigation

Cingular's argument that a class action is not superior because it would not be manageable, is, once again, premised on an incorrect understanding of California law. Ironically, its own argument - rather than suggesting a lack of superiority - if anything, suggests just the opposite.

First, Cingular misrepresents California law in suggesting that Plaintiff failed to meet his burden in not submitting a formal "trial plan." (Opp. at 28). Plaintiff's moving papers provide a detailed analysis of each of the elements of the class claims, and the proof by which these elements may be established. (Plft. Mem. at 17-23). In this context, a trial plan is not required. *Zinser v. Accufix Research Institute, Inc.* 253 F.3d 1180, 1189 (9th Cir. 2001) (trial plan is only required where certification is sought of a nationwide class for which the law of forty-eight states potentially applies).¹³

Defendant ineffectually argues that a class action is unmanageable because there are issues that will have to be tried separately for each class member. Cingular's examples of such issues

¹³ *Ruiz*, a 1998 decision based upon violations of the law of Puerto Rico, is inapposite. The class there was extremely diverse - ranging from smokers with serious illnesses to those who had merely smoked a few cigarettes over the course of their lives. *Barreras Ruiz v. Am. Tobacco Co.*, 180 F.R.D. 194, 197-199 (D.P.R. 1998). The Court's concern in regards to a trial plan was based on the need to resolve the likely intra-class conflicts. *Daniel v. Am. Bd. of Emergency Med.*, 269 F. Supp. 2d 159, 202 (W.D.N.Y. 2003).

1 include the need for the testimony of expert witnesses, the large number of documents, and
 2 "significant liability issues." (Def Mem at 29). Each of these issues can properly be resolved class-
 3 wide. Likewise, the Court can reject its oft-repeated argument regarding the purported need to
 4 conduct mini-trials to determine what individual class members saw and/or thought prior to
 5 contracting with Cingular, as that argument is premised on a misunderstanding of California law
 6 regarding the purported reliance requirements at issue here. *See* Section C., *supra*.

7 Last, Defendant - after having its arbitration clause deemed in violation of California law and
 8 unenforceable by both this Court and the 9th Circuit - continues arguing consumers would be best
 9 served arbitrating their claims.¹⁴ First, superiority under Rule 23 seeks to determine whether there
 10 are reasonable litigation alternatives to class treatment. The notion that tens of thousands of class
 11 members could instead individually arbitrate the claims at issue here is silly. Defendant's reference
 12 to *Laster* is unavailing. The *Laster* court held a similar arbitration provision unenforceable
 13 explaining that an arbitration provision which permitted punitive damages was insufficient in
 14 addressing the "overarching policy concern of deterring corporate wrongdoing... One, or even
 15 several, such damage awards would be an insufficient substitute for the deterrent effect caused by the
 16 threat of large damage awards that frequently accompany class action lawsuits." *Laster*, 2008 U.S.
 17 District LEXIS 103712 *42 – 43.

18 III. CONCLUSION

19 Plaintiff respectfully requests his Motion for Class Certification be granted.

20 Dated: May 21, 2010

**STEMBER FEINSTEIN DOYLE
 PAYNE & CORDES, LLC**

22 By: s/Joseph N. Kravec, Jr.
 Joseph N. Kravec, Jr.

24 ¹⁴ Defendant confuses the requirement of superiority under Rule 23(b)(3) with the feasibility of an
 25 individual lawsuit by one plaintiff. The superiority analysis requires "a comparable evaluation of
 26 other procedures" for resolving all the claims against the defendant. *Local Joint Executive Bd. of*
 27 *Culinary/Bartenders Trust Fund v. Las Vegas Sands, Inc.* 244 F.3d 1152, 1163 (9th Cir. 2001). In
 28 other words, superiority does not depend solely on whether a plaintiff has sufficient incentive for
 bringing an individual lawsuit. The crux of the superiority question is whether a class action is
 preferable to multiple lawsuits from the standpoint of litigation efficiency. *Valentino v. Carter-*
Wallace, 97 F.3d 1227, 1234-35 (9th Cir. 1996).

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PROOF OF SERVICE

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA)
) ss.:
 COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY)

I am employed in the county of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within action; my business address is Allegheny Building, 17th Floor, 429 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219.

On May 21, 2010, using the Northern District of California's Electronic Case Filing System, with the ECF ID registered to Joseph N. Kravec, Jr., I filed and served the document(s) described as:

PLAINTIFF'S REPLY BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR CLASS CERTIFICATION

The ECF System is designed to automatically generate an e-mail message to all parties in the case, which constitutes service. According to the ECF/PACER system, for this case, the parties served are as follows:

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I declare that I am an attorney for Plaintiff admitted *pro hac vice* in this action.

I further declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the above is true and correct.

Executed on May 21, 2010, at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219.

s/Joseph N. Kravec, Jr.

Joseph N. Kravec, Jr.